IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application

Ulrich WINDMOLLER et al

Attention: Applications

Serial No.:

To be assigned

Filed: January 22, 2002

FLOOR PLANK AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING IT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.56

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

For:

Pursuant to Rule 56, applicant hereby calls to the attention of the Patent Office the references listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. One copy of each reference is attached.

Applicant presents these references so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention; see <u>Beckman Instruments</u>, <u>Inc.</u> v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970).

Applicant respectfully requests that these references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

TPP/mat

Attorney Docket No.: TPP 31434

Thomas P. Pavelko Registration No. 31,689

STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.

1615 L Street, N. W., Suite 850 Washington, D.C. 20036-5622 Telephone: (202) 785-0100

Facsimile: (202) 408-5200 or (202) 408-5088

Date: January 22, 2002

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*English language abstract and corresponding U.S. Patent 4,540,624are enclosed.

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])